



Objection Number 11

**Ruth Turpin, Rural Support Coordinator,
Murray-Plains Division of General Practice Inc.**

1 page

From: Ruth Turpin
Sent: Tuesday, 24 August 2010 3:56 PM
To: VIC Redistribution
Subject: In support of maintaining rural electorates

Dear Sir

For the past years I have had the privilege of working closely with individual farmers, Small businesses and rural communities under the "Mental Health support for Drought Affected Communities". There are many aspects of their situation that are beyond any one person or Organizations' control but the constant message we know is appreciated is increasing the message that Someone cares about their situation.

Already the organizations and systems they interact with are increasing in size and they are losing Their sense of being individuals.

The proposed redistribution of federal electoral boundaries will only increase this sense of loss.

The rural vs city understandings and issues will be a greater task for one member to represent in parliament than already exists

- And it exists very much from our rural perspective.

Dr Stone's 65% polling is a comment about her ability to represent the electorate.

Increase the boundaries and the only way a representative can service that electorate is to thin their contact time and area. Who benefits from that?

At a time when rural communities are still reeling from years of drought and the ripple effect that loss of income, productivity, sense of pride and self esteem, loss of businesses and enterprises affected by the agribusiness sector is still foremost in our minds, reducing our small voice via our elected members is yet another way of interpreting that rural communities are less important or significant.

Ruth Turpin



A proud member of Australian General Practice Network

CAUTION: This message may contain privileged and confidential information intended only for the use of the addressee named above. If you are not the intended recipient of this message you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, distribution or reproduction of this message is prohibited. If you have received this message in error please notify the sender immediately. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender and may not necessarily reflect the views of Murray-Plains Division of General Practice Inc.